No: 11: 4h

THE

POPISH Damnable Plot

AGAINST OUR

Religion and Liberties

Fairly laid open and discover'd in the BREVIATS of Threescore and Four

LETTERS

AND

Papers of Intelligence

PAST

Betwixt the Pope, Duke of *York*, Cardinal *Norfolk*, Cardinal *Cibo*, Cardinal *Barbarina*, Nuntio and Internuncio for the Pope in *Italy*, *France* and *Flanders*, and the Lord *Arundel*, Mr. *Coleman*, Mr. *Cooke*, Mr. *Conne*. And also the said Mr. *Coleman*, *Albany*, Sr. *German*, *Lybourn*, *Sheldon*, *Throgmorton*, and several others.

As they were drawn up by the Secret Committee of the House of Commons, for the satisfaction of the House of Lords, in the Bill against the Duke of *York*, and expected Tryals of the Lords.

Now Published for the Vindication of the House of Commons upon the said Bill, and for satisfaction of all the faithful Subjects of His Majesties Kingdoms, with several *Animadversions* and *Remarks* made upon the said *Letters*.

LONDON, Printed for *R. Janeway* in *Queens-Head* Alley in *Pater-Noster-Row*. MDCLXXX.

THE

POPISH Damnable Plot

AGAINST OUR

Religion and Liberties

Fairly laid open.

Die Martis 25. Martii 1679.

REſolved, *nemine contradicente*, by the Lords Spiritual and Temporal and Commons in Parliament aſſembled, That they do declare that they are fully ſatisfied, by the Proofs they have heard, there now is, and for divers Years laſt paſt hath been a horrid and treaſonable Plot and Conſpiracy carried on by thoſe of the Popiſh Religion; for murthering of his Majeſties Sacred Perſon, and for ſubverting the Proteſtant Religion, and the ancient and eſtabliſhed Government of this Kingdom.

Jo. Brown Cleric. Parliament.

Sunday April 27. 1679.

Reſolved, *nemine contradicente*, That the Duke of *York* being a Papiſt, and his hopes of coming ſuch to the Crown, hath given the greateſt incouragement and countenance, to the preſent Conſpiracies and Deſigns of the Papiſts, againſt the King and Proteſtant Religion.

Order'd, That the Lord *Ruſſel* do go up to the Lords to deſire their concurrence to this Vote.

Order'd, That the ſecret Committee bring in an Abſtract of all thoſe Letters they have, or can come by, that concern the Duke of *York*, as to the Plot, with all ſpeed.

Sunday May 11. 1679.

Order'd that a Bill be brought in to diſable the Duke of *York* to inherit the Imperial Crown of this Realm.

Reſolved, *nemine contradicente*, That in defence of the Kings Perſon, and the Proteſtant Religion, this Houſe doth declare, That they will ſtand by his Majeſty, with their Lives and Fortunes; and that if his Majeſty ſhould come by any violent death, which God forbid, that they will revenge it to the utmoſt on the Papiſts.

Order'd, That theſe Votes be drawn in the form of an Addreſs to be preſented to His Majeſty; which is as followeth.

May 14. 1679.

Moſt dread Soveraign,

We your Majeſties moſt Dutiful and Loyal Subjects, the Commons in this preſent Parliament aſſembled, do with all humble Gratitude

tude acknowledge the moſt Gracious Aſſurances your Majeſty hath been pleaſed to give us, of your conſtant care to do any thing that may preſerve the Proteſtant Religion, of your firm Reſolution to defend the ſame to the utmoſt, and your Royal Endeavours that the ſecurity of that Bleſſing may be tranſmitted to Poſterity; and We do humbly repreſent to Your Majeſty, that being deeply ſenſible that the greateſt hopes of ſucceſs againſt our Religion in the Enemies thereof, the Papiſts, are founded in execrable Deſigns which they have laid againſt your Sacred Perſon, and the Life of your Majeſty, which is not only our Duty but our Intereſt with the greateſt hazard to preſerve and defend; We have employed our Counſels to the making ſuch Proviſions by Law as may defeat theſe Popiſh Adverſaries, their Abettors, and Adherents, of their hopes of gaining any advantage by any violent attempts againſt your Majeſty, and may utterly fruſtrate their expectation of ſubverting the Proteſtant Religion thereby in time to come: And further to obviate, by the beſt means we can, all wicked Practices againſt your Majeſty while any ſuch Laws are in preparation and bringing to perfection, It is our Reſolution, and we do declare, *That in Defence of Your Majeſty and the Proſtant Religion, We will ſtand by Your Majeſty with our Lives and Fortunes, and ſhall be ready to revenge upon the Papiſts any Violence offered*

by

by them to your Sacred Perſon. In which we hope your Majeſty will graciouſly be pleaſed to be the more aſſured, as we our ſelves are the more incouraged, in that the Hearts of all your Majeſties Proteſtant Subjects, with the moſt ſincere Affection and Zeal, joyn with us herein.

May the 19th. *The Houſe of Commons attended his Majeſty with this Addreſs; whereunto his Majeſty was pleaſed to return this gracious Anſwer.*

Gentlemen,

I thank you for your Zeal for the preſervation of the Proteſtant Religion and my Perſon, and I aſſure you I will do what in me lyeth to preſerve the Proteſtant Religion, and am willing to do all ſuch things as may tend to the benefit and good of my Subjects.

Wedneſday, May 21. 1679.

The Chairman of the Committee of Secreſie reports ſeveral Letters, moſt of them tending to the great aſſurance and confidence the Popiſh Party had by reaſon the Duke of *York* being a Papiſt. After which the Bill to diſinable the Duke of *York* to inherit the Imperial Crown of this Realm, was read a ſecond time, and committed to a Committee of the whole Houſe on *Fryday* next following. A true Abſtract of which Letters are as followeth.

THE

SEVERAL Material Passages OUT OF LETTERS RELATING TO The horrid Popish Plot.

The Letters from Albany's *Internuncio at* Bruſſels *to Mr.* Coleman.

Aug. 14. 75. *Num.* 5. GLad to hear of the good condition in which the Dukes Affairs ſtood, in relation to the proceedings he had with the Parliament, hopes him entire Victory; the Pope and Emperour will aſſiſt and ſerve him and the Catholicks.

2. *Sept.* 28. 74. *Num.* 9.] The Pope will accommodate the difference between *France* and *Spain*, by which means he ſhall contribute to the advantage of the Duke and Catholicks, the Emperour likewiſe zealous.

3. Sir *George Talbot*, *Oct.* 30. 74. *Num.*—] He proffers himſelf inſtrumental and Servant to the Duke, and now going from *Bruſſels* deſires to be written to at *Rome*.

4. Sir *Ed. Verham*, *July* 3. 75. *Num.* 11.] The buſineſs of the Cardinal of *Norfolk* will ſerve as an evident proof of the Pope's affection to the Concern of *England*, from whence draw an aſſured Conſequence of what you may hope when the Affairs of the D. ſhall need the Aſſiſtance of *Rome*.

5. *Octob* 19. 75. *Num.*—] Promoting the Affairs of the D. and Catholicks by the Pope and Emperour, ſpeaks of the deferring the Execution of the Sentence, which might cauſe ſome diviſions among the Catholicks, and give occaſion of advantage to the Parliament.

Sr. Germain's *Letters to* Coleman.

6. $\frac{13}{28}$. *March* 75.] Speaks of the Papiſts Intrigues with *France*, and ſays the D. Lord Treaſurer is very well diſpoſed to the ſucceſs of this buſineſs.

7. *Num.* 37.] Preſſes to have *Coleman* come into *France* with the D's Commiſſion, and further ſaith, he may obtain ſomething of the *French* Ambaſſador's Promiſes.

8. *Num.* 56.] Speaks of a Penſion from the Pope to *Coleman* for his ſervice to the Catholicks.

Jan. 29. to *Coleman*] St *Germain* will be always ready to deliver Meſſages in the favour of the Duke and Ducheſs, Catholicks and *Coleman* to the Confeſſor and King of *France*.

18. *March* 76. *Num.* 20.] Tranſaction of a Penſion of 100000 *l.* Sterling for *Coleman* from *France*.

Builds much upon the Diſcourſe the Duke held with the Grand Treaſurer, and directs the means of treating with *France*.

Jan. 29.] A ſuſpitious expreſſion of an intent to perſwade the D. to the conſent of doing the Work, or as others tranſlate it, to the giving the Blow.

Obſerve that the vigorous Counſels neceſſary for the Catholiques came from the Duke by the inſpiration of *Coleman*.

Leybourn's *Letters directed to* Coleman, *Secretary to Her Royal Highneſs*.

Rome, *April* 17.] The Letter which the Duke wrote to the Pope, and was given to Mr. *Conne*, hath miſcarried; the Nuncio of *Paris* doth acknowledge to have received of Mr. *Conne* the Pacquet in which it was, and doth ſay he ſent it hither, but here it cannot be found. The Cardinal of *Norfolk* ſent this to the Pope and Cardinal *Cibo*, who ſaith the only Remedy now is a Duplicate.

April 30.] Since my laſt, Cardinal *Norfolk* hath been preſſed with extraordinary earneſtneſs by the Duke of *Florence*, to write to the

King

King of *England* that Mr. *Plat* may not be ſent again to *Florence*, for weighty Reaſons; the Letters are all ſent directed to Mr. *Cboke*, there being ſome doubt of Mr. *Coleman's* not being in *London*.

He was alſo writ to by the Duke of *Florence* to the ſame purpoſe, who accordingly by this Poſt hath repreſented the matter to the Lord *Arundel*, Mr. *Coleman*, and Cardinal *Norfolk* is intreated to farther it.

May 29.] Mentions the miſcarriage of the Dukes Letter to the Pope, recommended long ſince to come; but the Pope being ſatisfied it came to his Nuncio at *Paris*, is reſolved without expecting another to direct a Brief to the Duke, and Cardinal *Norfolk* doth not doubt but the Duke will reply thereupon.

June ——] The Popes Letter to the Duke of *York*, the Brief directed to the D. is in Cardinal *Norfolk's* hands, than which nothing finer or fuller could be expected: Mr. ——— in four days departs with it, carries alſo for the Duke and Ducheſs two pair of Beads from the Pope, with moſt ample Indulgences; deſired that ſome *Engliſh* Prieſt ſhould be with the Popes Nuncio at *Nimeguen*, Doctor *Goodwing* excuſing himſelf, Mr. *Conne* is likely to go: My Service to our Friend in *Fleetſtreet*.

32. XVIII *June* 25. Mr. *Plat* is now ſo impertinent, to declare that he was always a Proteſtant in his Heart, expects with great impatience an Order to call him, and certainly Mr. *Plat* deſerves it.

July 9. 33 XIX.] The hopes you give, that Mr. *Plat* will be recalled, is very wellcome to the Duke of *Florence*; there is great need of it; for the Inquiſition hath begun to ſtir in it. Cardinal *Cybo* hath made complaint of it to the Reſident of *Florence*, as I have ſignified more particularly to my Lord *Arundel*.

XX. *July* 10.] My laſt which was by the Poſt, acquainted you that the Letter of the Duke of *York* to the Pope was received, the good man reading it, could not abſtain from Tears. Anſwer will be ſhortly ſent thereupon, the matter hath been dohe by great tenderneſs, with expreſſions of kindneſſes as could be expected, as you are deſired to ſignifie.

35. XXI. *July* 16.] The buſineſs of *Venice* Embaſſadour, mentioned in my two laſt; what hath come to your mind concerning a Match with the Prince of *Florence*. Our Lady *Anne* deſerves better reflections, than I am able to make of it; ſetting aſide the intereſt you might move the Duke of *Florence*, to deſire his great reſpect for the Duke of *York* would ſet a great weight upon his inclination to carry him towards it.

XXII[]

XXII.] I had yesterday, a Letter from the Duke of *Florence*, who continues his pressing earnestness, for compassing, here-to-fore mentioned; I doubt it may linger a great while, if such a reason be expected as may satisfie; I think it might suffice that Mr. *Plat* is very unwelcome to the D. of *Florence*.

36. XXII. *July* 20.] The Court there will not be well pleased, till the difficulties that obstruct the Peace at *Nimeguen* be removed.

XXVI.] Mr. *Gr.* is your Servant; this day, he hath a Breef of the Pope, in answer of the Letter of the Duke.

37. *July* 24. *August* 6.] These must acknowledge the receit of yours of *June* the 28. and *July*. Sir, one of them was very welcome for the Satisfactory matter it gave me, for a Letter unto the Duke of *Florence* after a Weeks silence to the point, he is so much concerned; for the same Post did also bring me a Letter from my Lord *Arundel* to the same effect, which I shall thank him for shortly. Cardinal *Norfolk* hath writ to the King to take the Queen of *Sweeden* into his protection, at the Treaty at *Nimeguen*; Reasons to prove the Justness of her pretensions, sent to Mr. *Cook*. Card. *Norf.* would be well pleased, if Mr. *Coleman* promote this Intereſt with the Duke.

38. XXVI. *August* 2. 74. [I have had thanks this Week, from the Duke of *Florence*, for the account I gave him; the last of what was contained in Letters, from Lord *Arundel*, and in *Coleman*, about Mr. *Platt*.

Aug. 29. XXVII. 40. 7, 11.] We had three this Week, one of them gave hopes of a Letter, from the Lord *Arundel*, I am indebted to the Friend in *Fleet-street*, for two Letters.

A Breef was sent last Year, Dated about the *9th.* of *May*, and carried from hence, by an *Irish* Bishop: Cardinal *Norf.* would know if it were deliver'd to *C. Q.* the answer was late expected. Card. *Barbarine* is in pain to know whether a Picture which he sent her Royal Highness, hath been received.

XXIX. 41. *Octob.* An expres dispatched from *Nimeguen*, by the Popes Nuncio, yesterday brought the welcome news of a peace made between *France* and *Spain*: His Holiness went this Afternoon to S. *Mary Major*, to thank God for the publique benefits and *Te Deum* is like to be Sung.

42. XXX. *Nov.* 2. 43. XXXI. *Nov.* 20] In the Country, with Mr. *Green*, would return to morrow, the former Cypher not being understood, enquires again after the Brief, sent last year in *May*, from the Pope

from the Pope to the Queen; the confidence with which Mr. *Coleman* ends his Letter to the Prince doth much please, but that delivered by Mr. *Gen.* in naming Duke *Lauderdale*, the Correspondent of Cardinal *Norf.* is much wonder'd at. I hope Mr. *Coleman* will on this accompt judge it necessary to proceed with more caution.

18. XXXII. *Dec.* 1.] Said the D. of *Modena* intends a journy for *London.*

19. XXXIII. *Jan.* 1. 78] The Letter of the D. about marrying of his Daughter to the Prince of *Orange*, hath been deli ered: I confess the Prince remains satisfied, the D. was in no fault but his intended answer will not touch that point.

19. XXXIV. *Same bundel.*] The business of Prince *Rinold*, I fear is not yet ripe.

Five Letters from Cardinal *Norfolk*, to *Coleman.*

20. XXXV. *Rom.* 12. *June* 77.] This sent by his Nephew, in whom he saith, you may have all confidence in any thing that concerns Mr. *Tours*, or me, for I assure you, that he hath a right esteem and fidelity for all, and will confer with you; he carrieth along with him something safer for Mr. and Mrs. from my Patron, which you will be glad to see.

XXXVI. *R.* 27. *July* 27.] The adjoining Pacquet, which I now direct to you, contains the Popes Brief, in Answer of his 2d. Letter of his R. H. My Nephew who carried the other, may be near his Journeys end with it: I assure my self they will be both very welcome, as that which occasioned them was to his Holiness. God grant to this new correspondence a blessing, whereof the whole Nation may have experience of the effects.

22. XXXVIII. Sir *William Throgmrtons* Letters, *Nov.* 28. 74.] The *French* Kings great kindness to the D. and that would help him to be chief factor; Judges the dissolution of the Parliament an absolute and necessary work, hopes to raise 50000; though the *French* King should be backward.

23. XXXIIII. *Paris Dec.* 8. 74.] Had rather have the *French* King have 2000000 of the Catholicks, than 30000 of the *French* Kings promises of 50000. from thence.

24. XXXIV. *Decemb.* 15. 74.] A paſſage about diſſolving the Parliament, which being compaſſed, he hopes the K. will never Quit.

25. XL.] We are promis'd aſſiſtance from *France*, of Moneys, or any thing elſe.

Paris, Decem. 22. 74.] Advice that the D. on his own Score carry on the Trade, and compaſs the diſſolution, if poſſible, if not make the beſt Market with *France*, and *Arundel* and *Coleman* to be adviſed about it, the K. of *England* immaginably deſpiſed.

27. XIII. *Jan.* 19.] He is over-joyed to hear the Parliament may be diſſolved without the 3000000 for that it will make the *French* King ſenſible of the Dukes power, and intereſt, and bring him to better terms, and link the *French* King and Duke, which is the great and neceſſary intereſt.

4. About diſſolution, and money for it, and reflecting eſpecially upon the K.

28. XI. III. *Feb.* 20. 29. *Feb.* 674.] Relation to the Tranſaction for the 3000000. hath theſe words of the *French* K. will do nothing; I know not how to help it; but the truth is, he hath ſo mean an opinion of the K. and his Partners, that I doubt he thinks ſcarce any thing they can do worth 3000000. it muſt be ſomething immediately from the Duke, that I muſt tell him, that will perſwade him to hope for better things, when he ſhall govern. Adieu, I can ſay, no more.

30. XII. Obſerve,] This ſeems the depoſing, or deſtroying of the King, for it muſt mean ſomething to be done ſpeedily, otherwiſe it could give no aſſurance of recompence for 3000000, which was ſo hard to be parted with, for it was a remote thing to expect and depend on the courſe of Nature; Whereby the K. being but two years elder then the Duke, the Duke might poſſibly dy before him.

31. XLVI, *Paris Feb.* 9.] The whole Tranſaction for the 3000000. to put off the Parliament, and carry on the *French*, and D. intereſt are all for the ſake of the Catholicks.

XLVII. 44.] About the ſame, but hard to be read.

Feb. 13.

Feb. 13. XLIX. 45.] The *French* King will assist the King against the Parliament, when the Parliament shall play the Prank, and concludes, Let not the Duke nor *Ravigny* trust the K. with more than needs, you know he is not good at keeping of Secrets.

Feb. 20. L. *March* 16.] Complements of being disappointed by the Treasurer and *Lauderdale*, magnifies and reviles the K. for being abused by Knaves.

LI. 47.] To no great purpose, but that my Lord *Arundel* is therein named as some body with the *French* King. *Vide* a *French* Paper Entituled *Instructions*.

LI. 48. *French* promise assistance to the Duke, and particularly to help him to Money to buy a new Parliament, if he please.

Sheldon's *Letters*, May 22. 75.

Hopes for a Dissolution of the Parliament, whose proceedings are expected by the *French* King, fears the Lord Treasurer is not a Friend to the Catholicks; that it's told the D's endeavours have been useful to him.

49. LIII. *June* 8.] A Prorogation would leave things in the same posture as to Religion, then ill with the Catholicks; but hopes the D. will improve the occasion, and *Lauderdale* will sure be of the same opinion; I will not answer for the Treasurer.

The last Paragraph mentions Sir *Jo. Ar.* and Sir *Geo. Wakeman*.

50. LIV. 75.] Speaks of the secret intercourse betwixt the K. of *England* and *France*.

51. LVI. *July* 25.] Hopes the D. will take of[illegible] measures, and there will be some need of the *French* K. who will be instrumental.

52. LVII. *July* 13.] *France* not upon sure Foundations till the D. be able to secure it, and promiseth to have the D. set in such a posture.

54. LVIII.] To put the D. in that posture and great endeavour of *France*, but *Ravigni* not a fit Instrument, but such an Ambassador as may be wholly subordinate to the Dukes Commands, Commends Sir *Ellis Layton* for a good Instrument, Lord Treasurer fails of nothing.

Col.

Col. Aug. 7.] Nothing clear but the complying of the D. and Catholicks together.

55. *Aug.* 30. 56. LX. 24, 75.] Speaketh of the propoſal made by the *Spaniſh* Ambaſſador in *England*, which makes *France* jealous, cautious, for the advantage of the Catholicks, and ſaith the Duke prefers Religion.

LXII. 58.] Saith he had ſaid to *Pompone*, that the D. was attacht with *France*, and alſo conſidering the Deſign of *Spain*, it was not to be relyed on to promote the Catholicks Cauſe.

What Meaſures the *Spaniſh* Ambaſſador hath taken, unleſs he engages the D. upon the account of the Catholicks, he will not find his Accompt.

Coleman's *Letters*:

All Nine or Ten fit to be read.

Will. Rices *Letters*.

LXIV. 60.] They are Eleven, and ſaid to be the E. of *Barkshires*, I have received them, but cannot ſee any thing in them material.

That of *March* 24. 75. MC. 10. ſeems to be the beſt of them.

Cardinal *Norfolks* Letters.

LXIII. 59.] Are all in general about the ſatisfaction the Pope at *Rome* took in the D. and what ſhall be endeavoured and done ſo far as poſſible for him and the Catholicks, yet *Vel.* the Cardinal is named, pray [illegible] two or three of them, as ſhall be thought fit.

ANIM-

Animadversions

On the foregoing

BREVIATS.

I Begin with their Ends: Here we find Religion not only preferred by the *Pope*, but Duke of *York* alſo, above Concerns of Crowns and Kingdoms; and of thoſe he ſo impatiently expects, and hath ſo long, ſo hotly, ſo primitively purſued, to the extreme hazard of his Brother and Soveraigns Life, and Royal Family.

Ante Diem Frater Fratris Dom. inquiratur annos.

The other Conſpirators alſo do all deſign and practiſe all things altogether for the good of the *Engliſh* Catholiques, and Catholique Religion: Here they play the Devils for Gods ſake.

Tantum Religio potuit ſuadere malorum?

A ſhame to thoſe Clergy and Gentry, that are not as zealous to preſerve and propagate the true, as they the falſe.

The means by which they ſeek to bring this about, the Advance of the Duke of *York* to ſuch a poſture, and by ſuch meaſures, as no Proteſtant, not Mr. *Ravigni* the King of *France's* Embaſſadour was fit to be made privy to, or act in, which might ſpeedily produce to the *French* King advantages of more than 300000 *l.* which was more than he valued the King and all his Party to be worth, or able to deſerve, which doth ſtrongly intimate that he was to be removed.

A Foundation was to be laid by the Duke, whereon the *French* King might raiſe the Fifth Univerſal Monarchy, and the Papiſts enjoy their Fanatick expectations under it without doubt: And to the ſame end, the Peace betwixt *France* and *Spain* was to be promoted at the Treaty of *Nimegen*.

The Daughters of *England* were to be diſpoſed of to Popiſh Princes, the Lady *Anne* to the Duke of *Florence*.

It was a fault, though well removed by the Duke, by his Letters Excuſatory to the Pope, and ſo caſt on the King without doubt, yet not to be acknowledged, as well excuſed in the *Popes* Anſwer, that he might underſtand that all Matches into Royal Blood, and hopes thereby of inheriting Kingdoms, ought to be reſerved, and will be hereafter to be diſpoſed by his Holineſs on ſuch his Favourites, the fierce and ſworn Enemies of all Heretiques, and their Abettors, as he ſhould commend or approve.

The late Long Parliament was to be diſſolved, that the King who was not like to have another ſo much at his Command, might not have them to relye on, and ſo be compelled to ſtick to the Papiſts, and their Councels to diſpair of help from Parliaments; or if he called a new one, they might out-bribe, and ſo out-vote him and his Party in Elections of Parliament men, and ſo in the Parliament it ſelf with the *French* money: This they call buying a Parliament for the Duke, by which they hoped to make him Admiral General, and all things; and at laſt turn our Annual Parliaments of *England* into perpetual Parliaments of *Paris*.

1 Que. *How our Hedgers will prevent the next Popiſh Succeſſor of that Crown Jewel, and Ineſtimable Prerogative of buying and ſelling all his Proteſtant Subjects for Slaves, which is a more profitable and Honourable way, than burning them within or without their Houſes.*

2 Que. *Whether he will ſell them as the Primitive Chriſtians to the* Spaniſh *Mines*; B. C. *would not out of his compaſſionate Conſcience free them all by* Habeas Corpus's, *till he meet with another Lord C. J.* Pophams *Caſe.*

3 Que. *Whether a Catholique Jury, by a ſecond Purchaſe, added to a Catholique Parliament by a late experiment, have not taught us, that the Writ* de Heretico Comburendo *taken away, hath promoted us Heretiques to be firſt hanged, and then burnt at* Tyburn, *if they pleaſe, for greater honour, and eſpecial favour; after the example of the Pious and Valiant Lord* Cobham, *who deſerved this Epitaph,*

Dextera per ferrum Pietas ſpectata per Ignes.

Here I ſhould have come to the Enumeration and Deſcription of the Conſpirators, but being they are ſuch Strangers unto me, that I know the Duke of *York* no more than the *Pope*, and may ſafely take my Oath, that to my beſt remembrance I have rarely ſeen, and ſcarcely know any, or but two at moſt whom every one knows, and adorns with their dogged Rhetorick; and I believe and hope they know me as little, or leſs: The beſt way I can think of for my Readers ſatisfaction, inſtead of giving their Characters, I will ſet down their Correſpondents, by which he may Characterize them, if he pleaſes, in his own Thoughts.

Noſcitur ex Socio qui non cognoſcitur ex ſe.

But now before I come to Enumerate them, I call to mind that I know a Third, whom of all of them I wiſh I had never known; and he alſo is none of the Delights of Mankind.

I begin with his *Holineſs*; a kind, good Natured, Old Gentleman, if you can believe either the Cardinal *Norfolk*, or Mr. *Oates*, not unknown to that Scarlet Hat.

You

You may be ſure he keeps Intelligence with no mean perſons; and I had as leave you as I ſhould trouble your ſelf to number his Briefs, Bulls, or Bables, as they ſignifie in *Engliſh*, and differ little in value from thoſe our Children blow and play withall; but that being more coſtly, though as empty and vain, they are ſport for their Maſters, the Childiſhly deluded Grandees of the World, with whom I leave them.

The *French* King would be offended if he ſhould not be Aſſigned the next Place after his *Holineſs*; and he, if any Contemporary to the expected Fall of the *Romiſh Babylon*, may ſtand Parallel and Antitype to *Nimrod* the Mighty Hunter before God in our days: I doubt he hath not choſen a good Seaſon to erect his *Fifth Monarchy*, nor is his Kingdom furniſhed with Laſting Materials for ſuch a work; but above all, I miſlike the Cement of Chriſtian Blood, with which he ſeeks to faſten the Fleet in Sands, whereon he hath laid the Foundation of his Walls and Bulwarks for the defence of his Rapine, wherein he glories, as ſome of thoſe Heathen Monſters, who thought themſelves worthy the Name of Great Conquerours, becauſe they had been cruel bloody Butchers, and Oppreſſors of the Ages they lived in, and were more truly ſtiled by ſober Hiſtorians, *The Scourges and Plagues of Mankind*: He is the Great Patron and Protector of all our Conſpirators, not excepting our vileſt Enemies, and moſt unworthy a Kings Favour; the Aſſaſſions, Incendaries, and Maſſacring Villains who burnt the City of *London*, deſigned to Murder the King, and bury him with the maſſacred Citizens in the Aſhes of that Renowned City.

This is not the firſt time that the *French* Monarch hath been invited by his *Jeſuit Confeſſor* to take the advantages of baſe Treaſons, againſt their loving, diſarmed, and peaceable Neighbours, which the Generous *Romans* ſcorned to take againſt their publick, armed, and moſt dreadful Enemies.

I have read ſome where, that Father *Cotten*, Confeſſor to *Hen.* 11. of *France*, diſcovered to him the *Gun-Powder Treaſon*,

Treason, and offered him the advantage of invading *England*, at the moment of that Astonishing Blow, destitute of Prince or Councel to Conduct them in their Defence.

And the truth is, not only the *Gun-Powder Treason*, but the Fire of *London*, without some such Confederacy with *France*, were little less Phrentick than *Venners* Action; though the latter proved mischievous enough to our Citizens, when the Accounts of *Rome* and *London* are cast up, the *Jesuits* Crack of thirty thousand pound, or he fourteen thousand pound gain, may be found some one hundred thousand pound *per Annum* lost to their Party in a few years: And how the same Society will reward *Lewis* the Fourteenth at last, for not assisting them with his Land-Forces to go through their work at that time, as they expected, I neither know, nor care; but *Henry* the Eleventh paid his neglect to them with the expence of his dearest Hearts Blood, and disappointment to his most Glorious Designs, when best prepared for them: And some to justifie their malice against him, would bear us in hand, that it was *Henry*'s Treason against his Confessor, and his *Papal Holiness*, for which he deserved at their hands as many Deaths, as he saved Protestants lives, that was about thirty thousand; that gave King *James* the Honour of so profound a Speculation, by which he was supposed to have devined the *Powder-Plot*, and the happy deliverance of Himself, Queen, Family and People, from that till then unheard of Treason; if so, we owe to his Memory.

But it may be this Haughty Prince never concerned himself to look in his own Person to so poor a Design as the hiring a few Rascals to fire and plunder his Neighbours Towns: For if it be true that I have heard, his Minister *Louvoy* knows, and hath estimated the Means and Costs of burning all his Masters Enemies out of their

Towns and Cities; but whether he knew the Artifice before, or learned it at our coſts in the *London* experiment, he hath not been ſuſpected, that I have heard, to put it ſince in practice, though he rated it at no very great ſums of Crowns; and aſſured himſelf, that the Wandring Prieſts and Fryars which ſwarm in all populous Towns, could not ſtand againſt the Temptations of ſo many *Lewis*'s, and would think the exchange very advantageous, to give Fire, and take Gold; at that rate he did Calculate it.

But neither do I find that any of his great Miniſters, *Colbert* or *Pompone*, were concerned with theſe Pimping Traytors: St. *Germain*, and ſuch like Correſpondents, were thought ſufficient to manage theſe Intrigues againſt ſuch an inconſiderable Party as they eſteemed the Kings to be; and well might, if *Lauderdale* and *Danby* were their Correſpondent Penſioners, though not through-paced when ſlowly paid.

The third place and degree in the Myſtery of Iniquity, I think will be allowed to our D. of *York*: For *Spain*, he had ſometimes a contrary Intereſt to that of our Ruine, and the *Emperour* too far off to be feared, though his aſſiſtance be alſo ſtrongly promiſed to our deſtruction by the Popes *Internuncio*. Albany.

The King of *England*, for what appears here, holds indeed a ſecret Intelligence with the *French* King, but nothing is diſcovered in it which might not be for the publick good of his own Kingdom, and all Chriſtendom: His Correſpondence with Cardinal *Norfolk* interceding for a Baniſhed and Depoſed Queen, may have not only compaſſion and courteſie, but gratitude in it. We leave him therefore to ſtand or fall by his Maſter, as he is not only above our private Ken and Judgment, but out of the reach of all Courts of Judicature, even that of his

Parliament, who cannot Commence any Seſſion without his Perſonal Preſence, if in capacity to come; and he cannot be both Judge and Party in his own Cauſe, in a Court where there is no Appeal.

Concerning the Duke, there are two Queſtions, *de Jure*, and *de Facto*.

De Jure, whether he may be Impeached, or no, I diſpute not; *De Facto*, is my enquiry what he hath done to deſerve it, if he be reſponſible.

His Correſpondents I find to be firſt the *Pope*, againſt whom the Publick Enemy of his King and Country not to be at enmity, at leaſt actually to be reconciled, as this D. was by Dr. *Armſtrong Franciſcan*, is High-Treaſon by as good a Law of his Grandfather, as that by which, being a Forreigner born, his Title to the Crown was Recognized againſt the Right Heirs of *Ed. VI. Engliſh* born, under which alſo he muſt claim his Succeſſion to the Crown of *England*; and this Correſpondence had ſince the Indempnity, by which he would avoid his Treaſonable Apoſtacy from the Church, and his Allegiance.

His Trading with the *Pope* for Briefs, Beads, and Indulgences, his excuſing his Daughters Marriage to his Coſin of *Orange*; his Charming Letters, breaking the good Old Gentlemans Heart at *Rome* into Tears, and receiving ſo fine, full tender returns in Bables, Bulls, or Briefs, and promiſes of endeavouring all things for him, ſhew how fit he is to Reign over Free-men, who is ſtooped ſo low, to become of a Free Prince, a Vaſſal and Penſioner of the See of *Rome*. I need not, after this, object to him his Correſpondence with the *French* King by his *Confeſſor*, in whoſe Pedantick hand his Advices ſhall be ſure to be corrected only to the Concerns of home, but betrayed to their General and Society, and made Truckle under their Intrigues.

His Factory and Trade with *France* for the Catholiques of *England*, if it ſignifie nothing againſt his Brother and Sovereign whilſt alive, which is ſcarce poſſible, conſidering

his

his and their Temptations to make a falſe ſtep or two to aſcend a Throne, and advance an oppreſſed Church of beloved Friends, againſt its ſuſpected or declared Enemies; it is a direct Conſpiracy againſt the Law, Liberties and Religion of the Proteſtant Kingdom, and tends to the diſſolution of the Government, and deſtruction of himſelf and Royal Brother.

That we may rightly underſtand his Concerns in the Plot, we muſt conſider, as far as our Letters enlightned us, his End, his Correſpondents, his Actions, his Inſtruments, the Character they give him, and the odious compariſons, by which they extol him above his Brother; of whoſe Vertues we have as many thankful remembrances, as we have true acknowledgments of the Dukes Vices: I wiſh here had been ſome mention of his wiſe Councel; but here *Coleman* is all, and inſpires him with thoſe vigorous Counſels which are neceſſary for Catholiques. *N.* 13.

Firſt, For his end, he profeſſes to do all for the Catholique Religion, and his Catholiques. *N.* 59.

For all other *Engliſh* men, and their Repreſentative Body, are his declared enemies, and deſigned materials only for his Valour to work on by Fire and Sword, to the attainment of a Glorious Victory, to uſher him in Triumph into his ſhare of the Papal *Fifth Monarchy*. *N.* 1.

The means to this are;

Improving the long Prorogation.

Taking new meaſures.

Such as will ſpeedily pleaſe *France*, and compenſate 300000 *l.* they advance; impoſſible for his inconſiderable Brother and Party to do.

All which ſpelt together, are in one word to Kill the K. maſſacre his Subjects, and fire his good Towns and Cities, whether the D. will underſtand it ſo or no.

Another ſpecial means to his Catholique ends, was to diſſolve the then Parliament, that was Killing the People in Effigie in their Repreſentative, as things then ſtood; and to that alſo, the readieſt way was Killing the K. the D's. compleat, expected deſigned Victory at one Blow.

His

His next means and more effectual then Sword and Fire(take the Plague into)which the Jesuites know easily to transport now, it is bringing up the King of *France*'s Reare, and paying his quarters in the *Low-countrys* of *Germany*, and shall not be long from us if they can help it over, is the Purchase of a Parliament with *French* mony--- Here observe why he was no friend, nor his Catholicks to the last long Parliament; they were Pentioners, but not all for his interest, nor all Pentioners.

His Father *Hide* and his Catholick friend *Clifford*, had not in three times sufficiently debocht the People, to see themselves and their Country in a Drunken mood, nor turned out all sober men out of the Corporations, nor had money enough to buy false and double Elections; enough at once with false Sheriffs, and returns to make a Committee of Elections, fix to turn out all honest men, that is all English Gentlemen whom they nickname Presbyterians by Test fair or foul play out of the Parliament.

But now the craft of the Bribery, *&c.* being better known, and the pleople some degrees further debocht, after the example of the Court 300000 l. *French* mony, as he well computed would buy a Parliament, and that

once bought he never needed to throw a Fire-Ball more in the City, Protect nor give Pensions for the *London* Incendiaries; nor draw a a Sword against the Fanatick: the terror of one Troop of Granadeers to guard such a Parliament will do his work, and make him absolute Victor over us, our Parliaments, Laws, Liberties, Lives and Religion. Oh the sordid niggardliness or folly of the Ministers of the *French* King; for *I* believe his lofty Majesty never looks so low as through this design, that complyed not seasonably with this proposal, which would by a strange Metamorphosis have Converted the Kingdom of *England* to a Catholick Kingdom, *London* to *Paris*, *England* unto *France*.

His Correspondents are next to be considered; in this I have partly prevented my self, namely in his Concerns with the Pope, and we finde little of his Correspondency with the French King; for though we read here of Trade and Kindness, and how much he thought to please, and how strongly he was atached to *France*, and their sole Factor for the Catholicks, and to lay a sure foundation for *France* to build on; yet that French Monarch seems to keep state, and not to correspond personally with him, nor by his Ministers for ought here appears, but by

by his Confeſſor, and other inferior *Agents*, with his Secretary *Coleman*.

Of the Duke of *Florence* we find only that he is inclined to the Duke with great reſpect recovers upon a Propoſition of a Match with Lady *Anne*, Num. 21.

With the Cardinal *Norfolk* and others, he had held correſpondency by *Coleman* his or his Dutcheſſes *Catholick Secretary*, amongſt whoſe papers, part here abſtracted, were found with the *inter-Nuncio Albany* by *Sir E. D.* who aſſures him of ſpecial aſſurance from the *Pope* of Rome when his *Affairs* ſhall need. *Num.* 3. *July* 3. 75.

I have ſpared to ſet down this ingenious and learned mans name at length, but *I* can hardly believe my own eyes, but if he be indeed a Correſpondent with Rome by *Albany* and Cardinal *Norfolk*, as I find it here expreſſly declared, conſidering the Eminent Place he hath and doth ſerve in, and very great *Perſon* he is related to, the great intereſt he hath in the Nobility and Gentry

Gentry of his County none of the leaſt conſiderable in *England*, his *E*ſtate already ſetled on his Son who Voted againſt the Duke as *I* am informed, I am aſtoniſhed to think in what eſtate the poor people of *England* will find it themſelves, when theſe Pillars whereon She ſeemed to me to rely, and be ſupported moſt ſtrongly and glorioufly, are either rotten at heart, or thus diſſemble with God and their Prince to keep their *I*mployments.

And I am out of meaſure confounded, when I conſider that in a County of ſo numerous and noble Gentry, he could devide the Clergy and carry a Vote againſt the major part of them: for his next relation in which his Power appears greater then if he had carried it for himſelf.

Heu quatum Mortalia pectora---
Noctis habent,

And if any of the Gentlemen of that County, who ſo numerouſly Voted againſt his Intereſt, which ſeems ſtrange to me can or have deterred him; I beg of them by all that is ſacred, that they would apply themſelves and by their *I*ntereſt in his Majeſties Parliament and thoſe few friends they can any ways find and be aſſured of to heal our Breaches & unite all ſober

Proteſtants

Protestants in the common Interest of Peace and Religion, and not bite and devour one another; for if they be not wholly devoured by one another, they will certainly expose themselves with that Party and Kingdom they are so zealous for, to be a prey to their Common Enemies. Which that God of his Infinite Mercy will prevent wholly, as he goes on to Detect wonderfully, and thereby graciously warn us to Repent, and return to Him for Protection and Safety: Is the Prayer of their poor Countreyman, who with Bleeding Heart, and Mournful Eyes, laments the sad Condition of his Prince and Countrey, who seem to him Confounded by these Prodigious Traitors, to run fiercely with open Eyes to the dreadful pit of Slavery, Popery, and utter Confusion, whereunto they are Sold by them they Confide in, and could not possibly expect to be so Wicked, until this Incredible Discovery made of their, in all Ages to be unparallel'd, and for ever to be abhorred Dissimulation and sordid Treachery: From which, Good God deliver us, *Amen, Amen.*

I come now to the D's Actions, so far as they appear here.

He is Inspired, and Pressed on by his Secretary *Coleman*, to all Vigorous Counsels necessary for the Catholicks. } *N.* 13.

Indeavours to be useful to the *French* King. *N.* 52.

He improves the Occasion of the Prorogation for him, with *Lautherdale*'s Advice. } *May* 22. 75.

The D's Improvement of the Prorogation, was *Coleman*'s Bribery for Votes, which the Treasurer was jealous of.

The Jesuits Improvement was to Cut the King's and Subjects Throats in the mean time, if they could.

He Trades and Factures with *France* for Catholicks on his own Score. } *N.* 38. 41.

Was against the Treasurers Trade for himself and his King. } *Throgmorton.*

And seeks to be Sole or Chief therein, to the Exclusion of the Grand Treasurer, by the *French* King's Kindness and Dissolution of the Parliament, against the Treasurers Interest therein, by two Pentioners: *Hinc ille Lacrymæ.* } *Nov.* 23. } 1674. *Dec.* 1. } *Paris.* *Dec.* 22. }

He will take other Measures, wherein there will be need of the *French* King's Instrumentallity, as is hoped by } *Sheldon. July* 25. 75. Nn. L V.

He is to be put in a Posture by the great endeavours of *France* (for which *Ravigni* is no fit Instrument to secure the *French* Foundation) for this he must have an Embassador wholly at his Command: Sir *Ellis Leyton* is a good one. } *July* 13. 29. *N.* 56, 57, 58.

He is to be perswaded to the Blow (that is, to sign the K's Execution) to please *France* speedily, by his Government. } *N.* 44, 45.

He will do nothing for *Spain*, unless the Catholicks find their Account therein, *Aug.* 30. *Sep.* 24. *Octob.* 1. *N.* } 58, 59, 60, 61.

He gives great satisfaction to the Pope, who by Cardinal *Norfolk*, promises to do what is possible for him to the Catholicks. } *N.* 62.

He writes oft to the Pope, and very pathetically. } *N.* 17. 20. 33. 36. *Ap.* 1676. *Jul.* 10. *Ja.* 1°. 78. *Jul.* 27. 77.

Discourses with the Grand Treasurer, upon which much is built. } *March* $\frac{21}{76}$. *N.* 11.

D. *derdale* privately with Cardinal *Norfolk*, for mentioning that *Coleman* is Corrected and Cautioned, } *N.* 31. *Nov.* 20. 76.

Is sure to help forward the Dissolution of the Parliament (no Friend to his Grace when the Treasurer is dubious, *N.* 52) yet he disappoints where he finds not his Interest as well as the Treasurers. } *May* 22. 75. *N.* 49.

Earl of *Danby*, late Lord Treasurer, no friend to Catholicks, as was feared by *Sheldon*; *May* 22. 75. *N.* 52.

Neither was he Undertaker for him as for the D. and *Lauderdale*, to improve the Prorogation for the Catholicks Good (that is at least) Bribing and making Votes for them. } *Ibid.*

He

He disappoints their Expectation, and so doth *Lauderdale*. *N.* 49.

But much is laid and built on him, after his Discourse with the D. *March* 167⅘, *N.* 11. St. *Germain.*

And speaking of the Papists Intrigues with *France*, saith the Lord Treasurer is very well disposed to the Success of this Business. *March* 167⅘. *N.* 6.

Heaven only can and doth hitherto preserve that People, whose chief Ministers of State, intrusted with the highest Concerns of their Prince, Countrey, and Religion, betray all to Forreigners and Irreconcileable Enemies. To him be Praise and Glory for ever. *Amen.*

Lord ARUNDEL.

Corresponds with the Duke of *Florence*. *N.* 15. 25, 26, 27.

By Mr. *Leybourne*, and with Cardinal *Cibo*; by the same. *N.* 19.

And with and Cardinal *Norfolk*. *N.* 15.

He is of the Council, and *Coleman*, with the Duke for carrying on the Trade, and making good Markets with *France* for Bribing, *&c.* } *N.* 41. *Dec.* 22. 74.

And for Dissolving the Parliament.

He is some Body with the French King. *N.* 50.

PAR-

PARLIAMENT.

Proceedings ſuſpected by *France*. } *N.* 52.
Their Diſſolution hoped for. } *May* 22. 75.

The French King will aſſiſt againſt them. *Ibid.*

Their Diſſolution neceſſary. *N.* 37. *Nov.* 28. 74.

To be Diſſolved for the Catholick ſake } *N.* 1.
The Dukes Caſe with them good } *Aug.* 14. 15.

He hopes to have Victory over them. *Ibid.*

He is to have French Money, to have a Parliament for his turn, if he will have any. } *N.* 51. *Inſtructions.*

The Parliament is advantaged by the Diviſion amongſt Catholicks, to avoid which, their Cenſure is to be deferred. Oh that we could learn this Wiſdom of our Enemies. } *N.* 5. *Oct.* 19. 75.

The Parliaments Pranks provided againſt by the King of *France*, by all means he can. *N.* 48.

Their and our Enemies wait for their Halting, God give them Wiſdom and us Patience.

Their Prorogation ill for Catholick Religion, in compariſon of a Diſſolution, but improveable by the D. of *T.* and *Lauderdale*. } *N.* 52. *May* 22. 75.

If Parliament Diſſolved, the King will never quit the Catholicks Intereſt and Counſels. *N.* 39. *Dec.* 15. 74.

Here

Here in theſe Private and Familiar Letters we learn to diſtinguiſh between thoſe they publickly pretend to be Enemies to, and thoſe whom they truly account their Enemies (that is, who they are that the Papiſts and French Factions do truly hate and ſeek to deſtroy) not any Parties with or Diſſentors from the Church of *England*, whom by their bawling Agents and Pamphlets, they contiuually rail at, caluminate, and ſeek to divide and provoke one againſt another; but it is the Noble and Valiant Proteſtant Gentry whom they fear and hate, the Parliament, the whole Free People of *England* by them repreſented, their Laws, Libetties, and Religion, in groſs by them protected, the Governours and Governed, and Government it ſelf; which whilſt it ſtands, the Greatneſs of *France* thinketh it ſelf not to ſtand ſecure, nor hold his Conqueſt faſt and ſure to him.

Here you may ſee what their Loyalty, Gratitude, and Kindneſs to their Good King is; others pity and cover his Infirmities: the Old Apoſtates, by whoſe Favour warmed, theſe Snakes become Conſiderable and Terrible, as *Throckmorton* here and every where, very impertinently inſulting, abuſing, inveghing againſt him, and expoſing him; but never expreſs any Compaſſion towards him, or the leaſt good wiſh towards him, his Affairs, or his Reformation; and make and mention him only as a Foil to his Brother, whoſe Vertues they as inſolently boaſt and exaggerate, as they flatteringly and knaviſhly conceal his Vices; which if they be not more wicked in a Subject, that pretends ſo much Holineſs and Religion, by the Hypocriſie that covers them, they are more dangerous in a Prince, and render him unacceptable and uncapable of the Government he ſo ambitiouſly ſeeks and aſpires to, by expoſing his King and Countrey to the greateſt horrors and dangers imaginable: I need not inſtance in any, they are too well known. I delight not in Detraction, here the reaſon is

manifeſt why he and they did procure the Long Illegal Prorogation for Seventeen Months, and endeavored then, and have ſince Diſſolved the late Long Parliament: namely, That they might Corrupt the Government of their Countrey, by buying to them, with French Money, the Votes of as many Electors and Members as they could draw to their Party againſt their Countrey, their King, and his Party; which, as inconſiderable as they make and eſteem it apart, joyning oft with their Countrey, ſtopt theſe *Jehues* in their furious Carrier, by which they drove *Charle's* Wain ſo madly by *France* to *Rome*; that is, by Temporal to Spiritual Vaſſalage and Slavery.

Not a word of *Presbyterians*, *Phanaticks*, *Sons* of the *Church*, thoſe miſty Names of mighty uſe with theſe Jugglers, wherewith they ſo amuſe the People in their Publick Writings, and ſtrangely Confound and Divide Them, that they may not know whom to follow in their neceſſary Defence againſt theſe Cut-Throats; that ſo whilſt they Maſſacre one Party whom they publickly pretend eſpecially to hate, the other may not take the Alarm to trouble or oppoſe them. Methinks it pities me to ſee my Honeſt Countreymen in that Noble *Romans* lamentable Condition, when in a Bloody War he ſadly complained, *Quem fugiam video quem ſequar non video.* Here to their Friends they lay off their Diſguiſe, they unboſome themſelves, and frankly confeſs to one another, Their Enemies over whom they ſeek Victory, and with whom they will have no Peace, are the whole Body of the King and Engliſh People, Parliament and Government, as the Bulwarks of their Religion, Laws and Liberties, which they ſeek to Diſſolve by their Deſolation. Theſe *Roman* Wolves fly at the Throat.

In the Parliament is the Throat of the Publick; It is the Neck that joyns the Head and Body. The King and

and People that conveys the Influences of Peace and Juſtice from the Head of every Member, they would Cut off, and for ever ſo ſeperate (if poſſible) from one another, that thereby they might frame to themſelves a Monſtrous Anarchy, by leaving the Kingdom without a Head; and joyning the Head to their miſhapen Limbs, if they could pull down the Parliament once by Force, or Fraud, Arms or Money, and pull out their Throats. If they could Kill or Corrupt the Dogs, they would eaſily and at their pleaſure, devour the poor Sheep.

Thus much was thought neceſſary in this Conjuncture of Infidelity and Diſtruſt, to undeceive the Prejudiced, confirm the Staggering, convince the Nullifidian, eſtabliſh the Faithful, encourage the Drooping, vindicate the King's Evidence, awaken and chear his Faithful Subjects to Watch and Defend him; clear and juſtifie the laſt Parliament in their Honourable and juſt Proceedings, till the Matters and Proofs before them, much more Full and Copious, may be brought to a publick Hearing and free Deciſion.

FINIS.